

portable telephone terminal to which the present invention is applied. The portable telephone terminal can be considered to be a modification to the portable telephone terminal of FIG. 9 and includes a first control section 1001, a memory section 1002, a radio communication function section 1003, a first display section 1005, an operation section 1006, a sound inputting section 1007, a sound outputting section 1008, a cell or battery 1009 and a power supply section 1010 which are similar to the first control section 901, memory section 902, radio communication function section 903, first display section 904, operation section 905, sound inputting section 906, sound outputting section 907, cell or battery 908 and power supply section 909 of the portable telephone terminal of FIG. 9, respectively. The components 1001 to 1003 and 1005 to 1010 of the portable telephone terminal are built in a body 1015 of the portable telephone terminal. The portable telephone terminal further includes an image pickup display section 1016 which corresponds to the external image pickup display section 914 of the portable telephone terminal of FIG. 9 and includes a second control section 1012, an image pickup section 1013 and a second display section 1014 which correspond to the second control section 910, image pickup section 911 and second display section 912 of the portable telephone terminal of FIG. 9, respectively. The portable telephone terminal of FIG. 10 is different from the portable telephone terminal of FIG. 9 principally in that the image pickup display section 1016 is

formed as a fully separate and independent unit from the portable telephone terminal body 1015. Thus, in order to allow communication between the portable telephone terminal body 1015 and the image pickup display section 1016, the portable telephone terminal additionally includes a second radio communication function section 1004 provided in the portable telephone terminal body 1015 and a third radio communication function section 1011 provided in the image pickup display section 1016. In the portable telephone terminal, the connection between the portable telephone terminal body 1015 and the image pickup display section 1016 is established by radio communication between the second radio communication function section 1004 and the third radio communication function section 1011. General operation of the portable telephone terminal is similar to that of the portable telephone terminal described hereinabove with reference to FIG. 1. Also in the portable telephone terminal of FIG. 10, a reception image from an opposite portable telephone terminal when it is used as a visual telephone set is displayed on the second display section 1014 similarly as in the portable telephone terminal of FIG. 9.

In the portable telephone terminals described above, a still image is used as the transmission image read out from the memory upon generation of a communication quality alarm. However, a moving image may be used as the transmission image. Where a moving image is used, a further attention of the other party of communication can be called visually.

Further, the present invention can be applied not only to a portable telephone terminal with a visual telephone function but also, for example, to a portable communication terminal which includes a built-in digital camera or can be connected to an external digital camera as an image pickup section and merely has a function of transmitting an image picked up by the digital camera to an opposite portable telephone terminal.

The portable telephone terminal described above is advantageous in that a countermeasure for preventing expected disconnection of the circuit during communication can be taken and the portable communication terminal can be used with improved convenience because an electric field intensity state of the portable communication terminal is transmitted as an image to the opposite party of image communication and besides the alarm image stored in the memory in advance is transmitted if a communication quality alarm is generated in the portable communication terminal.

The portable telephone terminal is advantageous also in that information of the electric field situation of it can be acquired by the opposite party of image communication irrespective of whether or not the opposite party of communication has a similar function to the unique function of the portable telephone terminal because the information is transmitted as an image.

While preferred embodiments of the present invention have been described using specific terms, such description is for